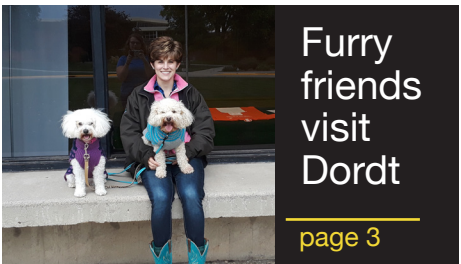




Train  
derail-  
ment

page 2



Furry  
friends  
visit  
Dordt

page 3



East  
Campus  
flooding

page 8



Healing  
Hearts  
Confe-  
rence

page 9

October 3, 2018  
Issue 2



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# THE DIAMOND

## The Art of the Prank: mischief often targets the president

Sam Landstra – Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, a group of students infiltrated the Campus Center on a Wednesday night with one mission in mind: to give President Hoekstra a very memorable birthday. In a process that took four hours and three different trips to Walmart, according to mastermind of the prank Caleb Schreurs, the group hung streamers from staircases and walls and littered the area with balloons. Adding a personal touch, the sign on the President's office was changed from "President" to "Birthday Boy."

President Hoekstra, who happened to work from home that morning, described his reaction upon walking the into newly decorated Campus Center at 10 a.m. as "joy and surprise."

This prank joins a group of other pranks that have been more directly aimed at the president. One of these pranks includes a group of students ringing President Hoekstra's doorbell past midnight after losing a "What are the Odds" bet. President Hoekstra remembers that he got out of bed and drove to the students who were then walking away, thinking they were in need of something.

Although President Hoekstra does believe that some pranks in the past have definitely crossed the line, Hoekstra embraces pranks at Dordt. "I just think pranks are fantastic," he said. Hoekstra recognizes that the stress college can put on a student, especially being far away from home, makes pranks a good way to blow off steam and keep college fun and exciting.



Contributed Photo

In particular, Hoekstra recalls two specific students who pulled various pranks during their time at Dordt. These pranks included breaking into the library after midnight to play a secret game of laser tag and cancelling class for the week by hacking into one of their professor's emails. The professor had mistakenly typed in their password in the username slot while attempting to log in during class one day, revealing the password "lycospora" to the class. Later on, the two logged into the professor's

email and sent a notice to all the students in the class, cancelling it for the week.

In memory of their trouble-making and fun times at Dordt, these students created a scholarship titled "B-Schutt Lycospora and Laser Tag Camaraderie Scholarship." The scholarship is named after the two pranks they received punishment for and the individual who handed out the punishment, Bethany Schuttinga. The scholarship is awarded to a student who has shown examples of spontaneous or informal

community building and camaraderie that fall within the guidelines of the Student Code of Conduct Handbook."

Examples of past pranks at Dordt also include students parking a Volkswagen Beetle in the library, stealing silverware from the Northwestern dining hall, and the occasional mode of transportation parked on top of a building on campus. Additionally, a Dordt security car was once stolen, only to be found at the bottom of a lake years later.

One of President Hoekstra's favorite pranks from his presidency at Dordt College came when a group of students released four piglets in one of the women's dorms with the numbers 1, 2, 4, and 5 written on them. Hoekstra recalls that it was quite some time before it was realized that there was no #3 pig.

However, President Hoekstra does emphasize that pranks should have their limits. According to President Hoekstra and Robert Taylor, dean of students, pranks at Dordt should not negatively target any individual, violate any laws, destroy any property, or put anyone in any type of harm. As a rule of thumb, if the prank is enjoyed by all, including those dealing with the after-math cleanup, the prank is welcomed at Dordt.

Many pranks in Dordt's past have not adequately followed these guidelines and punishment has been delegated for them. Nonetheless, President Hoekstra enjoys seeing pranks on campus for the fun and relief they bring and says he is, "thankful for the students that helped me celebrate my birthday."

## Eatable in its sophomore year at Dordt

Danielle Schultz-- Staff Writer



Eatable, a mobile app intended to help students access their meal accounts quickly and efficiently, was introduced last year on Dordt's campus. Although it was slow to gain momentum, by the end of last year, more and more Dordt students were pulling out their phones instead of their student ID's to pay for meals.

This year, like last year, seems to be starting off slow for Eatable.

According to Commons worker Emma Bakker, a sophomore, less than half of students use Eatable to pay for their meals.

"Since it's the beginning of the year, I think a lot of freshmen just use their ID's because they aren't quite sure how the app all works," she said.

The Grille experiences similar results. Grille worker Katie Bogle estimates less than 30 percent of students uses the Eatable app to purchase food there.

"We have very few people using the app, especially during the busy meal exchange times," she said. "I think this is because last year there was a large push for the app to be used, and they gave out prizes and incentives if people used the app. However, the app is often times not faster so this year fewer people are using it."

One reason Eatable works more slowly than

swiping a student ID is the cashier has to scroll through all the faces on the screen, trying to find the match for the person in front of them.

"When people use the app you need to look through everyone for their face, tap it, and then wait for it to go through," Bakker said, "whereas when they use their card, the meal charge pops up immediately and you just have to 'okay' that by tapping it away."

To make Eatable work a little faster, students could pull up the app on their screens before they get to the cashier. It also helps if each student tells the cashier their name when they get to the front of the line. This streamlines the process.

Like every new technological advancement, Eatable has its downfalls, but Commons worker Janessa Minderhoud believes that the app is still very convenient and practical.

"Student ID cards work well and are very efficient," she said, "but the eatable app is also useful, especially for people who don't carry their student ID with them...if the app is used properly and opened up early enough it can be just as efficient as a student ID card."

Even if some students do not want to use Eatable to pay for their meals, the app still comes in handy. Not only does Eatable pay for meals, but it also records the number of meals students have left per week and the amount of Defender Dollars they have left per semester. Students will be able to order meals ahead of time at the Grille or view future menus for the Commons. These are all nice options for students who plan out their meals.

## Sioux Center goes "viral"

Jenna Stephens -- Staff Writer



Photo by Sioux Center News

Throughout much of our nation's history, the sight of students reciting the Pledge of Allegiance would have seemed commonplace. But in today's cultural climate, the commonplace is being questioned.

"We've moved into this weird spot where it's uncool—it's un-American—to be American," said Mark Volkers, Digital Media instructor at Dordt College.

At Kinsey Elementary, most of the classrooms begin the day with the Pledge of Allegiance. To kick off the first day of this school year and continue their yearly tradition, students and staff

gathered at the flag pole to say the Pledge. A Sioux Center News representative took a short video of the event and posted it on the news organization's Facebook page on August 23rd. Within a matter of weeks, the video reached nearly 8 million people's Facebook pages and 3.9 million views, propelling it to "viral" status.

Troy Lentell, Kinsey Elementary Principal, finds the video's number of views shocking. What was simply a school tradition has become so much more, starting passionate and heated conversations on social media.

One Facebook user wrote: "I'm so glad to see the majority CANNOT be overruled by a few haters, or in MY words, pathetic idiots. This IS America, let's always remember that. If you can't respect it, then leave. Bye Felicia, go try to disrespect another country, any country. Let's see how far you get with that."

A different woman wrote that she cried tears of joy as she watched the video, then stood and recited the pledge in response.

Others found the video offensive.

"Really love the way political conservatives try to pawn themselves off as Christians when they are not and how they mislead little kids into doing things Jesus said not to," wrote another Facebook user, referring to the swearing of oaths.

Dordt sophomore Felix Alcover moved from Puerto Rico to the United States at the age of 16. Puerto Rico is a U.S. territory, but it has its own flag and pledge. Alcover grew up seeing both flags and hearing the Puerto Rican and American anthems at important events.

"In the United States, if you were born here or are just coming over, I guess it's just kind of

Continued on page 8



# Dordt hosts high school FFA competition

Sarah Widener -- Staff Writer

Clusters of anxious high school students filtered into the science and technology center Tuesday morning during a heavy rain. After signing in with Future Farmers of America (FFA), filling out name tags and forming teams of up to four students, students divided into four groups that rotated clockwise around the lower level labs to take four different tests. Students had been studying ever since they received their study materials weeks ago to prepare for this 40-question agronomy test.

Some student teams huddled together around samples whispering quietly and methodically recording observations, while other teams labeled their specimens haphazardly and loudly.

Students identified 10 insects, 10 field crops and 10 weeds, and completed a 10-part soil quiz. Teams had 15 minutes at each station, using word banks if they got stuck. Sixty students participated.

Results were graded, scores were tallied and the winners were announced. Winning teams received baseball hats and bragging rights. Afterwards, all the students trooped to the commons to spend some time getting to know each other before heading back to their respective high schools.

This is the third year Dordt has run this program. Dr. Jeremy Hummel started the FFA Crops and Soils Competition as a way to support high school agriculture programs and engage students. The first year, the program was purely educational and lecture based. This created a good program, but students lacked focus and interest. The second year, Hummel decided to fix the lack of student engagement by transforming the program into a competition. This new format turned out highly successful, with great student enthusiasm and participation.

Hummel designed the test himself, but Ag club members and his fellow Ag professors assisted him by running stations.

“We are trying to give resources and access to materials to teachers and students,” Hummel said. “The Crops and Soil Competition is a training session and imitates FFA competitions at a smaller scale under lower pressure. Students are able to get used to the testing environment and learn test time management skills.”

Teachers, FFA leaders and TA’s accompanied the students. Several students wandered the labs and scoped out the campus, full of curiosity. Over lunch, students and FFA teachers could be heard discussing their scores, the school’s environment and upcoming FFA competitions.

“It is an educational tool that helps us show students what they don’t know and fill in that knowledge gap,” Dordt Ag professor John Olthoff said. “It is a great help to the local teachers. They enjoy having our support.”

September 20th is national Agriculture teachers’ appreciation day, giving Dordt an excellent opportunity to show appreciation to the high school ag teachers inspiring students to enter that field. FFA teachers often work by themselves and face an uphill climb to gain student cooperation.

“We have 84 students in our Ag program,” said Dennis Banson, FFA teacher at Unity Christian. “Our goal for our ag program is to help students find their place in God’s Kingdom.”

Branson’s students did well in most tests, but struggled with soil ID. They were able to learn through the post-test review. “There were good explanation of each area after the contest,” Branson said.

Dordt plans to continue this program and other FFA programs in support of area teachers and future Ag students.

# Science, faith, or both?

Danielle Schultz -- Staff Writer

A new club is making its appearance on Dordt’s campus this year—or rather an old club is being revived again: the Science and Faith Club.

The goal of the club, according to co-leaders Brooke Altena and Chloe Hansum, is to create a space where people feel free to have difficult conversations about science and faith in a Christ-like manner.

“We don’t want people to feel like they have to choose between studying science and faith,” Hansum said.

The club does not push a specific view but instead encourages students to listen with open minds and respectfully express their own opinions.

“We both have passions for these topics [science and faith] and we’d like to help lead the community in conversation,” Altena said.

Some Dordt students may have already heard about the Science and Faith Club’s big event for the year: “Origins Conversation with Todd Wood and Darrel Falk.” This event, which will take place on Oct. 26 from 7-9 p.m. in Science Building 1606, will feature a discussion between evolutionary creationist Darrel Falk and young-earth creationist Todd Wood, Christians who hold opposing views on origins but are able to

have a respectful conversation about it because of their faith.

“If you’ve ever struggled with how science relates to your faith, I think this conversation would be of great help to you,” Altena said.

Anyone is invited to attend the event, but if students are interested in further pursuing their own conversations about science and faith, the co-leaders would encourage them to also join the Science and Faith Club.

“It’s a place to fellowship together and learn about other views...where we can learn how to have a Christian conversation no matter how difficult the topic,” Hansum said.

If you are interested in joining the Science and Faith Club, please contact Chloe Hansum or Brooke Altena via Dordt email. The “Origins Conversation with Todd Wood and Darrel Falk” event is free, but there are limited seats, so be sure to register at [originsconversations.eventbrite.com](https://originsconversations.eventbrite.com) if interested.



# Another train derailment in Northwest Iowa

Alex Van Den Top and Emma Stoltzfus -- Staff Writers



Photo by [nwestiowa.com](https://www.nwestiowa.com)

A bridge collapse right outside Alton, Iowa, caused a Union Pacific train to derail over a flooded Floyd River in the early hours of Sept. 23. No injuries were reported to the Sioux County Sheriff’s Department.

An estimated 20-40 cars derailed, many spilling soybean oil and industrial sand into the river. The spill did not include hazardous chemicals. This is the second train derailment in Iowa’s northwest in the last three months. After heavy rains, a BNSF train derailed near Doon, Iowa, in June, releasing around 230,000 gallons of oil into the Little Rock River.

Authorities are still investigating the cause of the most recent derailment. Justin Jacobs, Senior Director of Communications for Union Pacific, said the accident was weather-related.

“Obviously, safety is our top priority in everything we do,” Jacobs said in a phone interview. “We want to keep a close relationship with the National Weather Service in the area

in order to prevent this from happening again. We want to get better moving forward. We are going to get better moving forward.”

Union Pacific’s website posted three days prior to the accident that floodwaters could potentially cover tracks between Sioux City and Alton and that trains would be rerouted. According to Jacobs, they had been given reports that Union Pacific ran additional inspection trains in the time between the initial post on Friday and the time of the derailment. Jacobs didn’t respond with specifics on future prevention of derailments, but said Union Pacific would do everything they could to move in the right direction.

“If we’re going to take away anything we can do in terms of ‘lessons learned,’ obviously we’re going to do that,” Jacobs said. “We’re always looking for new ways to enhance safety across our network.”

# The “blue wave” hits Texas in Cruz Senate race

Harrison Burns -- Staff Writer

Ted Cruz finds himself in an unexpectedly close race for the Senate against his Democratic opponent, Beto O’Rourke.

In the aftermath of the Republican domination in the 2016 elections, the months leading to the 2018 midterms have seen a growing surge in Democratic voters. This surge has been deemed the “Blue Wave,” referring to the spike of anti-Republican support that many Democrats hope will result in midterm victories, to overturn the House and possibly even the Senate. Ted Cruz’s seat is one of these potential opportunities for a flip from red to blue.

The growing uncertainty of Cruz’s future in the Senate has shocked the nation, as Cruz is one of the most well-known and influential conservative politicians of the past decade. He was the main challenger to Donald Trump during the 2016 primaries, even campaigning here at Dordt’s campus in Spring 2016. But even in the traditionally conservative stronghold of Texas, Cruz is lacking momentum.

Momentum is instead being carried by his challenger Beto O’Rourke, who has served in the House of Representatives for six years, the same length Cruz has served in the Senate. While O’Rourke is still trailing Cruz in most polls, he has steadily been gaining percentage points as the race progresses, even leading by two points in a mid-September Ispos-Reuters poll.

O’Rourke offers a stark contrast in policy to Cruz’s strident conservatism. He is a strong proponent of Universal Healthcare, new ideas for gun regulation, flexible immigration reform, and many other progressive policy cornerstones.

The race itself has garnered uncommon

national attention, with O’Rourke appearing with the likes of Stephen Colbert and Bill Maher on late night television programs. O’Rourke has made use of the spotlight, repeatedly pointing out his refusal to take corporate PAC money (unlike Cruz) and his extensive outreach to all 254 counties within Texas while Cruz prioritizes his time in D.C.

Senator Cruz has also launched his own barrage of criticism against O’Rourke, particularly as the race continues to tighten. From O’Rourke’s socialistic agendas to his blunt critiques of law enforcement, Cruz has used his opponent’s unconservative and sometimes extreme positions as ammunition in the political battle. Cruz has also elevated the race into a fight for the heart and culture of Texas, stating in one rally, “[Democrats] want us to be just like California, right down to tofu and silicon and dyed hair.”

With only a month left in the contentious campaign, both candidates are ramping up their bases to vote in what could be the closest U.S. Senate race from Texas in decades. Even President Trump will be going to the Lone Star State in October to rally for his former rival. O’Rourke has exploited this unlikely alliance as a criticism against Cruz’s character, calling back to the 2016 elections when Cruz called Trump a “sniveling coward” and Trump’s infamous nickname for the senator, “Lyn’ Ted.”

With one heated debate already completed, the senator and congressman are set to clash in two more debates before Election Day which will likely add to the political drama. It is uncertain how successful the Blue Wave will be in the results of the 2018 midterms, but the energetic competition of O’Rourke against Cruz is certainly a testament to its genuine power.



# All the world on one table

Haemi Kim -- Staff Writer



Photo by Haemi Kim

On Friday, Sept. 28, Students Without Borders Club, also known as SWB, started their year with international students, domestic students, and friendship families all coming together to have a taste of each other’s cultures during their first event, the International Potluck.

The food was from all over the world: Asian, African, European, North American, and South American. Sarah Ryan, a junior and domestic student at Dordt, also brought international foods to share different cultures that she has experienced. “It’s always fun, cooking food together and shar[ing] different cultures mixing from my own culture as well as my experience in Nicaragua, with Antonio [Dordt Freshmen], who has also been to Nicaragua as well and Hannah and Cheyanne who were neighbors [at East Campus Apartment] to help out,” Ryan said.

During the potluck, people shared cultural bonds with food and each other.

“When I first tasted this snack, the visual was so-so, so I didn’t expect it but when I tried it opened my eyes,” said Kyungmin Lee, a freshman who found her “life chip” after trying the Indonesian chips, Keripik kentang.

Eun Cho, another freshman student, had the opportunity to teach a common South Korean hand-clapping game, to Manuela Ayee, an engineering professor. “At first it was hard to teach the rule for this game, but she was good at learning this game, so after we learned and played this game, it was so fun and it was very cool to play our country’s game with other people from another country,” Cho said.

“Having a potluck not only draws people’s attention, but it creates an idea of several cultures coming together to sit down at one

table. It is like we are all part of a big family,” said Sophia Shin, president of Students Without Borders. “It was a great turn out and I enjoyed trying different kinds of foods.”

Student Without Borders exists to give international students an opportunity to share their culture with other students and the community. The club has two big events: Curry Craze in the fall and the Cultural Fair in the spring. They also have smaller events throughout the year.

After a successful kick-off event, the Students Without Borders Club is now advertising their next event, the Curry Craze, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13.



Photo by Hyun Jin Lim



Photo by Sophia Shin

# Kavanaugh hearings spark suspicion, division

Julianna Martinez -- Staff Writer

While many citizens from the Republican base dismiss sexual accusations against SCOTUS nominee, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, others argue that another FBI investigation is paramount to the confirmation process.

Although two other accusations have come out, the primary complaint comes from Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, a professor from Palo Alto University in California. She testified before the Senate that Kavanaugh assaulted her during the summer of 1982, when they were high school students. To date, there has been no hard evidence presented that this, or any other assault, took place; indeed, witnesses have come forward with written statements to exonerate Judge Kavanaugh. Kavanaugh also testified, adamantly denying the claims against him.

But Democratic senators—and a few Republicans, too—are responding to allegations by calling for extra precautions. On Friday, Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., said the Senate cannot “move forward [in the confirmation process] without hitting the pause button.” Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said, “I lament the way this hearing has come about.”

While neither Democratic nor Republican leaders have completely dismissed the allegations, Republican Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., says these claims are a “political sham” to undermine Republican progress in the U.S government. Graham even said this confirmation hearing was “the most despicable

thing I have seen in my time in politics.”

The fact that Dr. Ford has not made these claims against Kavanaugh public until now, 36 years after the supposed event, has raised eyebrows. Kavanaugh himself went so far as to call the allegations an “orchestrated, political hit.”

Many affirm Kavanaugh has been treated poorly during the confirmation process, especially if the accusations of sexual abuse are false. His accuser, Ford, has also suffered: She has received death threats in the weeks following the publication of her claims and endured public interrogation when she wanted to remain anonymous.

If Republicans can secure a “yes” from Senator Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., there will undoubtedly be a vote on Kavanaugh’s confirmation in the following days. Flake’s vote is important as, without it, Republicans may not have the votes necessary for confirmation. The Senate, through President Trump, is allowing for a brief FBI investigation on Kavanaugh, which should conclude by Friday. Of course, there is no guarantee of a strict adherence to this time restriction. At time of printing, there has been no official date set for a final Senate vote.

Knowing the truth of these allegations is important, but likely, unprovable.

Whatever the truth is, the accusations have certainly tainted the public opinion of the confirmation process, as well as damaged the reputations of Judge Kavanaugh and Dr. Ford. Ultimately, the lives of both accuser and accused have been severely changed.

# Furry friends doggedly visit campus

Alicia Bonestroo -- Staff Writer

Despite the cold wind and threat of rain, sophomore Emily Schuiteman brought two furry creatures, Jett and Jada, to campus last Thursday. The two schnoodles – a mix between a poodle and a schnauzer – hung out in front of the Commons in sweaters, ecstatically greeting anyone who walked past.

While not everyone stopped, those that did seemed to leave happier. Sophomore Demetrius Rowser ran to the dogs, saying “Dogs! Gotta pet them!” before continuing on his way.

Schuiteman’s idea to share her dogs with other students came to her while working on a paper about how the campus could be improved. In her research, she found dogs were scientifically proven to decrease stress. And she knew a lot of stressed college students.

“I want others to enjoy them,” she said. “It’s tough leaving home and your parents, and it’s hard not to come home to a wagging tail.”

Dordt does not allow pets in the dorms, but, as Schuiteman is a Sioux Center native, her dogs are always close by. Schuiteman’s mom raised Jada and Jett from puppyhood. The family just

delivered a new litter Wednesday.

Apparently, the dogs enjoy coming just as much as the students love seeing them. When coming to Dordt was still new to them, whenever their sweaters or vests would come out and Emily would ask, “Want to go see the kids?” the dogs would lose it—jumping, running around and barking. Now, she only has to ask and they are ready for duty.

On the last few visits, Jada and Jett have been joined by their puppy friends George and Jack. They did not make it on Thursday because they were in Sioux City.

If you’re worried about allergies, don’t be. The schnoodle breed is hypoallergenic because of their poodle side. In other words, these guys don’t shed! They’re also quiet: they will whine for pets every once in a while, and Jada likes to give kisses, but on the whole, the two are very friendly and well-behaved.

Jett and Jada also have an Instagram under the name dordtdogs. If you missed them Thursday, don’t worry. Schuiteman plans on bringing them on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 5:15 and 6:15. The schedule may change, but, either way, you’ll still see these furry friends regularly.



Contributed Photo



# Some professors take classes too

Garth van Donselaar -- Staff Writer

According to the Academic Affairs Office, 78 percent of full-time faculty at Dordt have a doctorate or terminal degree. What is it like to get a doctorate, and why would anyone want to?

“There are benefits professionally. In terms of the teaching world, that’s one way you can move up,” said Kari Sandouka, computer science professor. Sandouka is working towards getting her Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) from Dakota State University.

“My number one strength according to StrengthsQuest is learning,” Sandouka said. She mentioned she has always had an interest in learning and the benefits that come with that, yet she never foresaw herself getting her doctorate.

However, after graduating with her bachelor’s degree, Sandouka had interest in obtaining her master’s, and the company she worked for covered the cost. An additional incentive was that having a master’s degree was a way to receive a promotion.

It was only when Sandouka began teaching at Dordt seven years ago that the idea of getting a doctorate showed up on her radar. Having finished her coursework, she is now in the phase of working on her dissertation.

Sandouka’s doctoral research is about large quantities of data, as well as methods to “correctly” display and visualize such data.

“If we can’t do it with a simple Excel table and 20 rows of data, how are we going to display big data with millions of data records?” she asked. She said no one knows how to use charts properly.

Sandouka added that Dordt wants its professors to obtain their doctorate and is supportive of those doing so. For Sandouka, this meant having her teaching load reduced by 75 percent and being given space to get away to focus on her work.

“I can’t walk down the hallway passing the Provost or the President without them asking

how the degree is going and how the work/life balance is going,” Sandouka said. “They’re encouraging, and they want you to succeed.”

Dordt is even willing to grant faculty sabbaticals to complete their doctorate work. Choir director Ryan Smit will be one such recipient as he works on his Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.) from North Dakota State University.

“A D.M.A. is a little more focused on performance. The culmination of that degree will be a couple of performance recitals and then a smaller dissertation that goes along with those recitals,” Smit said.

As for his dissertation, it is still up in the air as to what it will be. With this year being his second at Dordt, he has only recently committed to obtaining his doctorate degree, which will take him about five years to complete. He plans to do coursework over the summer.

Unlike Sandouka, obtaining a doctorate has always been a goal of Smit’s. “I’ve always wanted to reach that level and earn what they call the terminal degree in my field,” Smit explained.

While Smit always has had an interest in obtaining his doctorate, the idea cemented itself after he obtained his master’s, which he got right after his bachelor’s degree. “I knew I needed to teach for a while and get some experience before I went back for a doctoral degree,” Smit said.

Smit acknowledges the expectation of faculty to obtain their doctorate at some point during their tenure, but it does not bother him since it has been a career goal for him. He is excited to begin his work and appreciates Dordt’s encouragement and support through covering costs and time off to complete the degree.

Another professor pursuing their doctorate is Mary Beth Pollema, an education professor. In terms of getting her doctorate, her story is somewhat of a hybrid of Sandouka’s and Smit’s.

“I always loved school and I always loved learning, so I was never opposed to it,” Pollema

said. Once she started teaching at Dordt five years ago, the opportunity materialized and fully became an interest.

Pollema is currently pursuing her Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) from the University of Nebraska. She is preparing to take her comprehensive exams. Once completed, she can then begin to work on her dissertation.

Pollema’s thesis is “Latino Perspectives on Family Engagement with Schools.” The issue she is looking to tackle is the problems schools have in connecting with Latino families.

Previous research has shown that if parents are involved in their children’s education, children set higher goals and perform better.

“That seems to be a real challenge for the schools to do that with Latino folks,” Pollema said. She hopes her research will uncover barriers schools face when trying to involve Latino families.

“I think the primary thing I want to get out of it is a better understanding of how the Latino

families view engagement,” Pollema said. She believes Latino families want to be more involved with school, but there needs to be common ground between both sides to get to that point.

To conduct her research, Pollema hopes to survey up to 20 Latino families to get their perspectives on the issue. She says Dordt helped make it possible with graduate study grants and funding.

“The encouragement from fellow faculty members and the department in helping me accomplish these goals has been just wonderful; it’s really made it possible,” Pollema said. If all goes well, she hopes to be finished in a year and a half.

(PICTURE BELOW)

Professor Pollema and student Jaz Mendieta Gauto interview a man about his perspectives on schooling.



Photo from Marketing Department

# Scratch curbside cupcakes sweeten campus

Erika Buiter -- Staff Writer



Photo by Erika Buiter

Parked in front of the Campus Center, the Scratch Curbside truck drew in a line of shivering students, staff, and faculty on Friday, Sept. 21. They waited for one thing: cupcakes. Curbside offered a variety of flavors with names like “Wedding Day” and “Razzle Dazzle” at \$2 per cupcake or \$22 per dozen.

The cupcakes were Instagram-worthy—each featuring a big wad of frosting, easy-to-peel parchment paper wrapping, and simple toppings. Customers left the truck with single cupcakes, half-dozens, and more, clutching them as they walked back to classes. For some, their taste lived up to their looks.

“This cupcake brought a ray of light topped with frosting into my life, and that’s as poetic as I’ll get,” said Anneliese Donstad, holding her half-eaten “Oh Happy Day!” cupcake.

For Juliana Martinez, the truck was a disappointment. “Their website says they have gluten-free cupcakes, but they were not willing to put any on their truck or do orders ahead even

though I called five days in advance,” Martinez said. “How hard would it be to set aside a dozen cupcakes?”

While their website states that they do have gluten free options, they are only available in their store locations every day. Scratch Curbside is just one part of the Scratch Cupcakery family, which has brick-and-mortar locations in Cedar Falls, Waterloo, West Des Moines, and Coralville. Scratch Cupcakery started in 2010; they added the cupcake truck in 2011.

“Natalie, the owner, wanted to reach people farther than just our two stores at the time and a truck was the easiest way to do that,” said Bre Wood, a member of senior management at Scratch Cupcakery. “The biggest challenge we face every year is making sure we take enough cupcakes to each town and don’t bring a ton back. [However, the] benefits are huge—we can get to a lot more cities [with the truck] than our stores can.”

Today, Scratch Curbside has visited more than 1,000 locations across Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Missouri—and now, Dordt. Sharla Gradert, events and auxiliary services director at Dordt, was the brains behind getting Scratch Curbside to campus. She had the idea to contact them after having one of their cupcakes when they were at Ground Effects last year. Gradert believes the truck was a hit.

“I had one employee tell me that we should try to do a Food Truck Friday once a month or so,” Gradert said. Dordt’s campus could use the influx of new food—with less than ten non-chain restaurants in Sioux Center, there are not many options for students besides driving an hour or more to Sioux City or Sioux Falls.

One thing is clear: if there will be more food trucks on campus in the future, students are not afraid to wait in the chilly outdoors to pay for cheap, high-quality food.

# Health now centered on campus

Joshua Meribole -- Staff Writer

At the beginning of this school year, one of the most notable changes that came to Dordt was with the Student Health and Counseling Center.

Dordt changed both the location and name of the Student Health services. Throughout the summer, walls were constructed, furniture and equipment installed to make sure the Student Health and counseling services would be ready to receive student.

“The new name better reflects who we serve, and what our services are. So, we added ‘student,’ to reflect that the services are for students, not faculty and staff. And we added counseling to reflect that counseling is here as well,” said Beth Bass the Director of Health and Counseling Center.

The change in location makes it easier for students on campus to better reach the service. Baas also said that it makes it closer to the Students Services, which the health service is part of.

Julius Mwale, a junior, welcomes the change in location.

“It was very weird having to go to the basement of a girl’s dorm to get medical help,” said Mwale.

Because the health and counseling service moved to where the mailboxes were, they were moved to the campus center. Julius was fine with that.

“I didn’t get that much paper mail, and you already get a notification now when you have mail, which I think is more useful,” said Mwale.

Baas says the discussion to move the health services began about 5 years ago. The final decision was made around May.

The changes from the old location to the new

location comes with other less-noticed change.

“Each room is a soundproof box,” said Baas. The old location did not have sound proofing. Although Baas’ lab is smaller, she says she is now able to leave some of her equipment in her room where she is examining students. Other changes include a larger counseling office.

There were 720 health related appointments and 413 appointments for counseling last year. Baas says the number of Health Services is normally higher with 800-900 appointment. The Student health services started around 2003 with counseling added around 2008.

The Student Health and Counseling services is open to drop in from 9:00am – 12:00pm and 12:40pm – 3:30pm by appointment.

Counseling is available by appointment only from 9:00 am – 3pm from Monday to Friday.



Contributed Photo



# Cookout fails to capture students

Garth van Donselaar -- Staff Writer

Even the allure of free food could not keep the attendance numbers up for the annual CDA cookout on Thursday. The field behind Southview Apartments served as the location for the event, closer than last year’s festivities at Open Space Park.

Despite the convenient location, temperatures in the 50s proved to be an issue, and the few students who went seemed to have grabbed their food and simply left. Even with students leaving earlier than normal, attendance remained low.

“I would’ve gone if I had known about it. I had already eaten dinner because nobody told us about it,” senior Brandon Dotinga said. As is turns out, residents living on the 3rd and 4th floors of Kuyper Apartments never received a notification of the event from their CDA, senior Caleb Smith.

Caleb Smith admitted he had forgotten to notify residents of the event, but pointed to

other advertising, such as posters and the Weekly. Posters for the event were hung up, but the Weekly sent out on Tuesday did not mention the cookout.

“I did not know it was going down, and I live right outside of it,” senior Makeila Shortenhaus said. Her room on the 1st floor of Southview sits right next to the back field.

Other residents of the 1st and 2nd floors of Southview claimed they never heard from their CDA about the cookout. However, information regarding the cookout came in the last line of an email the Friday before. Most of the email spoke about the Fiesta.

Senior Abby Smith, another CDA, said she emailed her residents the day of and did not appear to have an issue.

“The way we found out [about the cookout] was by looking out our window,” said Logan Kaskie, a resident of Kuyper’s 3rd floor. Many upperclassmen relied on word-of-mouth

through their friends to hear about the event itself.

“Free brats are always a plus, because I love brats,” senior Amber Ybema joked. Like Ybema, many students complimented the idea of the cookout and the food offered.

Fifteen minutes after the start of the event, Director of Resident Life, Derek Buteyn, ran to grab more plates, as they ran out. The cookout also ran out of chips.

“It’s difficult for our end too, especially going from RA to CDA, you just never know how many upperclassmen are going to come,” said Abby Smith.

Despite the efforts of the CDAs in organizing the cookout, their reputation amongst residents has taken a hit.

“Dordt seems to be big on community but the CDAs don’t promote it,” said senior Joel Scholten.



Photo by Garth van Donselaar

# Dordt grad engineers her return to campus

Evangline Colarossi -- Staff Writer

Dr. Manuela Ayee is one of the many new additions to Dordt’s faculty this year. A Dordt alumna herself, she now serves as an assistant professor of engineering, focusing on Chemical Engineering classes.

Originally from Ghana, Ayee grew up in several different countries before her family moved to Sioux Center over a decade ago. At that time, her father taught in the Dordt Communication Department and her mother both taught Sociology and served as the Coordinator for Minority and International Students at Dordt. She finished her Bachelor’s at Dordt, her Masters at Iowa State University and her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She stayed there to work as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Medicine. She focused on research and taught a little at the Department of Medicine before deciding to return to Dordt to begin a faculty position.

Before college, Ayee knew she really enjoyed science and admits that math also held a special place in her heart. After taking a career placement test, she knew Chemical Engineering was what she wanted to do. Her Ph.D has a concentration in Computational Biomedicine, allowing her to use the skills and tools of a chemical engineer, while still applying them to biomedical problems. It mixes engineering, biology, medicine and computer science.

When Ayee attended Dordt, Chemical Engineering was not yet offered, so she majored in Engineering Science with an emphasis in Chemistry. Mechanical and Electrical Engineering were the only specific

engineering majors offered then, but Dordt has now expanded to four engineering majors and six engineering concentrations.

Ayee currently teaches Introduction to Engineering Analysis, a math class for freshman engineers. In addition to building up important mathematical skills, it helps students test where their strengths lie and determine if engineering is the best fit for them.

“I want to be helpful at the beginning,” she said, “as the students determine what they want to do and get the fundamental information they need to continue.”

She also looks forward to teaching several more advanced courses in the future. Next semester, she will be teaching a Chemical Engineering-specific course, along with an introductory Chemistry class. This will give her more experience with freshman and sophomore engineers, along with letting her work with Chemical Engineering upperclassmen.

“I’m hoping my presence will help some students decide if Chemical Engineering is for them,” she said.

Ayee not only works alongside both her previous professors and some former classmates. “It’s a huge blessing, almost like a homecoming,” she said, adding that these familiar faces have helped to make the transition into a teaching role at Dordt much easier.

This is Ayee’s first faculty position, but she glorifies God for directing her here, and for the students’ lives and educations she gets to be a part of. While she doesn’t have a favorite class to teach, she does have a favorite aspect of teaching.

“It’s that moment of recognition I see in a student’s eyes,” she said. “That, for me, is the reward. The point when someone actually understands and knows that they can do it now on their own. That moment can be reached in any subject.”



Contributed Photo

# Student govt. organizes joint Bible study and club fair

Emma Stoltzfus -- Staff Writer



Contributed Photo

Dordt’s fall club fair took place in the Grille on Sept. 27. In a new step this year, the event showcased both Dordt clubs and the various small Bible study groups meeting around campus.

Above club posters, the projector that would later display songs for Praise and Worship showed information for almost 40 different Bible studies.

Most Bible studies listed specific target audiences: the dance team, Korean community, certain wings, freshmen girls, or simply “people searching for joy.”

Megan Van Den Berg is the senior chair of Dordt’s Student Government and has been working in various positions of the organization since her sophomore year. In terms of last year’s fair, she said, “I was flying blind; I had no idea what I was doing.”

This year the club fair took place a month earlier—a good thing, Van Den Berg said—and collaborated with student ministries to publicize both clubs and Bible studies on campus.

She and the rest of the 17-member board meet every Wednesday with different departments on campus. They use those opportunities to connect with campus organizations—like Dordt Dining Services or computer services—to give and receive feedback.

Van Den Berg described the role of Student Government as a “mediator” and said that this year they are “vamping up” after their name change from Student Symposium. One goal is to make themselves more known and connect with students to get feedback and develop their role as mediator.

At the club fair, many booths present gave out candy and information about their respective events and meetings. Most had some form of sign-up sheet where students could put down their name and contact information. Even the Dordt College Communist Party had a display and pile of “rations”—though without a representative, as usual.

Chloe Hansum ran both the Science and Faith Club and the Sustainability Committee displays at the club fair. She said the fair is a great event to build up club members and awareness.

Representatives of the Swing Dance Club broke out into dance several times throughout the evening and the new Roundnet Club had a spikeball net leaning against their table.

To help promote the event, Student Government gave each club present \$30 and had free popcorn available for students. Van Den Berg was at the Grille an hour and a half before the fair’s start, talking to clubs and making sure everything went smoothly.

Less than half an hour after the tables finished breaking down, students singing at Thursday night Praise and Worship replaced the small group display and club booths.



## De Jager sets up for success

Caleb Pollema-- Staff Writer



Photo by Sawyer Strelnieks

All athletes dream of being able to contribute their personal best to a team that is in pursuit of championships. This is most definitely the case with setter Jamie De Jager and Dordt’s women’s volleyball team.

De Jager, a senior from Sioux Center, Iowa, is in the process of finishing her volleyball career at Dordt and her degree in elementary education with special education and reading endorsements.

She hopes to land a teaching position in an elementary school after college is over, but for now she is focused on completing her degree and enjoying her final season of Defender

volleyball.

As a setter, De Jager hopes to not only better her technique and skill at her position, but also be a leader on a team that is looking to return to Nationals this year.

“We want to be GPAC champions, maintain a team GPA of 3.6, seek out evangelistic opportunities, take time to serve others in our community, and make it to Nationals,” De Jager said.

These goals will not be possible without De Jager at the center of the Defender offense. De Jager received recognition recently as the NAIA National Setter of the Week.

“It was an honor to be recognized as Setter of the Week,” De Jager said, “but I couldn’t have done it without my passers and hitters.”

This unselfishness is something that characterizes great teams. Being a part of a team is something that De Jager has been used to her entire life. In high school, De Jager was a multi-sport athlete, competing in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track.

This love of sports has always been a big part of De Jager’s life. She had the privilege of getting to watch her older sister compete in sports throughout her childhood and she plans to continue being active even after her volleyball career ends.

For De Jager, Dordt volleyball has not only given her an outlet to play the sport she loves, but it has left her with memories that she will cherish for the rest of her life.

“I got to play in nationals as a sophomore and junior,” De Jager said. “And I have made some of my best and lifelong friends.”

Even as her playing days come to an end, De Jager is thankful for the memories she has made and the opportunities she has experienced because those will last a lifetime.

## Defenders remain undefeated in conference play after wins

Caleb Pollema-- Staff Writer

The Dordt volleyball team continued their dominance in the GPAC this weekend with wins over Hastings and Doane.

Dordt opened the weekend with a home match against a ranked Hastings team on Friday night.

The Defenders would get off to a good start with 25-11 victory in set one, but Hasting’s would respond with a 23-25 victory in the second set.

However, the comeback would not be enough as Dordt would go on to win the next two games by a final of 25-23 and 25-15 to win the match 3-1.

Ema Altena lead the Defenders with 18 kills, and Ally Krommendyk finished with 17 kills on the evening.

Dordt would improve to 7-0 in conference play and 13-2 overall.

“We came out really strong and played very focused,” head coach Chad Hanson said. “The growing point came for us in the second set when we got back on track with taking care of our individual responsibilities.”

With one win on the weekend, the Defenders would head into a matchup against the Doane Tigers on Saturday evening at the DeWitt.

The Tigers would prove no match for the Defenders as Dordt started off with a 25-23 victory in set one and a kill efficiency of .432.

Dordt would go on to win the second set handily by a final of 25-13. Up two games to none, Dordt had to hold off a late Doane rally in the third game that had the teams at 23.

However, back to back kills by Ema Altena would give Dordt the 25-23 advantage and the sweep of the Tigers in three games.

Leah Kamp led the team with nine kills and Jessi De Jager had seven kills in the match.

With these victories, Dordt would keep its undefeated record in GPAC play and would



Photo by Sawyer Strelnieks

improve to 14-2 overall.

As the team looks to the second half of GPAC play, they are determined to win the GPAC and make a run for another national championship.

“We are excited for the rest of the season and hope that we keep getting better every day,” said senior setter Jamie De Jager.

Dordt will turn its attention to a non-conference matchup this Tuesday against a top-ranked team: Viterbo University. The match is set for 7pm in the DeWitt.

The Defenders will return to GPAC play next Saturday on the road at Morningside

## Two teams, one coach

Sawyer Strelnieks -- Staff Writer



Photos by Sawyer Strelnieks

Bill Elgersma is on his fourth season with the head coaching position of the women’s soccer program. In addition to this, he merged programs and is also head coaching the men’s program. With two graduate assistants, Ryan Gresse and Andrew McMillan, and Craig Stiemsma as the keeper coach, a full plate is an understatement for the coaches of these programs.

Elgersma works on planning and executing back-to-back practices between the two teams while his assistants work on training sessions and breaking down film daily.

“The biggest change is the amount of thinking time needed to process training, players, formations, opponents, and my athletes as students and people,” said Elgersma. “I worry that I will lose sight of who they are beyond soccer because I am in the vortex right now.”

Elgersma’s biggest role change this year has been coaching both teams with a broader approach. He has placed a larger role on his assistants, letting Stiemsma be responsible for all things related to keepers and managing the day-to-day details of scheduling, officials, and eligibility.

Elgersma’s two graduate assistants work on the run-of-play analysis and daily 6 a.m. training sessions. Gresse is the primary assistant for the men’s team while McMillan is the primary assistant for the women’s team with some overlap going both ways for the coaches.

“I have noticed this year that Coach has done a better job of using the graduate assistants to break down film and explain new formations,” said Kenzie Bousema, a senior captain. “Coach Mac and Gresse have been extremely helpful but also quick to challenge us as players. I am looking forward to the rest of my senior season with the girls and coaching staff.”

With so much planning and running practices, Elgersma has had to rely heavily on his assistants to pick up much of the coaching areas that he used to take care of himself. He has had to learn a whole new team and the playing style of the men’s team.

“Games and practices are much more intense this year for a couple reasons,” said Patrick Munsey, a sophomore captain. “One being

Elgersma’s attitude of playing players that fit his style and way of soccer and not necessarily the best technically which leads to a lot of competition for spots.”

The women’s team is grateful to have Elgersma back for another season and the guys are excited to have a very committed coach.

The players have noticed how much Elgersma has put into both programs, and how he is still putting just as much time into the women’s program as he has in years past.

“That man is more strong-willed than a bull in the ring,” said Dallas Parker, a senior captain. “He will do everything in his power to build this program, even if it means his sanity is pushed to its limits.”

Elgersma continues to advance each team to reach their maximum potential with great expectations for both programs this season.

The men’s team is looking at being in the top four in the regular season with hopes of having a run to this year’s semifinals. The women’s team is looking at clinching a post-season spot in the playoffs and staying above a 0.500 rating this season.

The women’s team is currently 4-6. They will face the College of Saint Mary this Saturday at home starting at 1:00 p.m. On Oct. 8, the women’s team hosts Dakota Wesleyan, with the game starting at 1:00 p.m. The men’s team is 5-5 and plays after the women’s games both Saturday and next Monday, with start times of 3:15 p.m.



## Defender cross country teams start off with a bang

Ben Bouwkamp -- Staff Writer

Cross Country season is in full swing for Dordt runners. At the recent Dean White Invitational on the campus of Doane University, Defender women’s and men’s teams took the day, both winning first place. The women were led by senior Annechiena Knevelbaard and junior Olivia Couch. Also finishing near the top were senior Sarah Wensink and junior Erin Bandstra. Freshman Eric Steiger and sophomores Jacob Vander Plaats and Anthony Ghiorso led the men. Freshmen Nic Veldhorst and Davis Tebben rounded out the top five Defenders. The Defender men leaped to first, with the competition, namely Northwestern, in a distant second place.

Teamwork and strong individual performances have given the Defenders success

thus far, but they are not ready to sit back on their accomplishments. For some, running has become more than logging miles and going to meets.

“I have also really focused on turning my running into an act of worship,” junior Tara Andersen said, “instead of an activity I check off my daily to-do list.” This attitude has propelled runners to give more to each run and workout, and the results speak volumes.

Coach Nate Wolf anticipates the remainder of the season with excitement.

“Both teams are looking forward to gaining more experience,” he said, “...and are working to be at full strength in early November for the GPAC meet.” The Defender Cross Country teams will be in action again this Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Briar Cliff Invitational.



# Dordt football: “tip the rock” season

Sawyer Strelnieks-- Staff Writer

The Dordt football team won 38-19 in their conference matchup vs. Concordia last Saturday. The team has a current record of 3-1 and is aiming for their first winning season as a program.

Focusing on opponents one week at a time, the team had their eyes set on Concordia this past week. The past two years Dordt fell short as they faced off to Concordia. They made strides during practice to fix their mistakes from previous games to gain a win.

This year’s team is full of leadership as they teach one another to play for much more than just wins on the field. Playing to honor God, compete fiercely, and having a kingdom impact off the football field, are all aspects the team feels will lead to a winning program.

“Being a captain on this team is very different than other teams,” said Devin Eekhoff, a senior captain. “We have probably 10 other guys on this team that could be captains as well, so those guys make leading super easy because even though they don’t go up for the coin toss, they are as much leaders of this team as we are.”

The team this year has strived for growth, as players and men, every time they step on the field. They are hoping this growth will pay off later in the season when the team has struggled in years past.

“We are looking to beat some really good teams,” said Tyson Dahlgrin, a senior captain. “And ultimately create a chance for playoffs.”

The cold weather of October and November has not fared well with the program in years past. In spite of this, many of the players are looking forward to changing this season even though they face the challenges of weather and tough teams.

“I think this team has the depth and mentality to succeed in the second half of the schedule,” said Keithen Drury, a senior captain. “One of our goals is to beat Northwestern. We will have that opportunity next week. If we play our best game, then I know we can beat them and notch our first win in the series versus NWC.”

Although adversity has hit the team early this year with injuries and a tough loss to Doane a few weeks ago, the team has responded well with young players stepping up to fill positions. The team is looking at making a jump this year by overcoming obstacles.

“Our rally cry this season is ‘tip the rock’,”



Photo by Sawyer Strelnieks

said Joel Penner, the team’s head coach. “Which basically means that our program needs to make a jump this year. We need to take out some obstacles in our way that have previously stunted our progress.”

“Tip the rock” was an idea the team came up with when they went on a camping trip to Wyoming earlier this year. In order to be the team that they want to become, they need to get the ball rolling, or a rock in this case.

Once the rock is rolling, its momentum will keep it going and nothing can get in its way to slow it down. The team strives to build momentum early in the season and use it to transition them into the second half of the season.

The team’s greatest obstacle they face is the temptation of being less than they could be. With a 3-1 record already this year, the team has made a statement as a program and looks to continue to sharpen their focus on “tipping the rock” as they face each opponent.

Dordt takes on Northwestern next Saturday over Heartland Break. Kickoff is at 1 p.m. in Orange City.

# Sports injuries stop runners in their tracks

Evangeline Colarossi-- Staff Writer

Snap, Crackle, Pop. Those three words can refer to the deliciousness of cereal, but they can also relate to the seriousness of injury when you’re an athlete. When athletes begin training to compete, a serious injury can set them out for most of or even the entire season.

It isn’t rare to see a student-athlete walking around campus with a brace, a sling, kinesiology tape or other contraptions to help relieve pain or encourage healing. Of the returning cross country sophomores, four of them are currently healing from injuries or have been recently cleared to return to normal training. This begs the question: Why are some of the most physically fit students suffering from injuries?

According to the Sports Medicine and Running Training (SMART) Institute, the most common injuries result from overtraining. A study completed by the US National Library of Medicine showed that the top three injuries for long distance runners are shin splints, Achilles tendinitis and stress fractures to the tibia. These injuries can delay training for two to eight weeks... that is, if they stop training. Continuing to run on an injury can go from a medial pain to a much larger problem with an extended healing process if left untreated.

Anna Vekony is a sophomore at Dordt and runs

on the cross-country team. Last season, Vekony suffered from a knee injury and received a stress fracture in her tibia, the front of her lower leg. This year, she was set back at the start of the season with a misdiagnosed injury. After taking weeks off for an assumed stress fracture, Vekony was recently cleared to train again. As it turns out, Vekony has shin splints, which are microtears in muscle and bone tissue that result from overuse.

Frustration and disappointment were mental setbacks that came along with the physical injuries. Vekony couldn’t run with the team, but instead had to use exercise machines to complete workouts. “It’s definitely not as fun as being with the team,” Vekony said. “I’m excited to get back to racing and talking with people on the runs. It’s easier when you have people to push you.”

This Saturday will be her first time racing this year, though she’s only been cleared to run for a week. Building the muscle strength and respiratory endurance back up can be both encouraging and challenging. Vekony finds encouragement each time she can run further, but is still a long way from her original pace and mileage.

“I’m kind of bummed that I missed most of the races,” she said, “but I’m very excited to get back to it.”

# Tiger roars again

Sam Landstra-- Staff Writer



Contributed Photo

Tiger Woods’ first PGA Tour win since 2013 at the 2018 Tour Championship signals the return of the golf legend for many.

Golf fans witnessed an event they had not seen in quite some time last Sunday—Tiger Woods hoisting a trophy in celebration of a PGA Tour victory. Tiger, who held the lead all weekend, won comfortably with an 11-under par. The next closest competitor was Billy Horschel who finished two strokes behind.

Tiger’s victory marks the first time he has won a PGA Tour event in over five years, his last being in 2013. For those counting, that is 1,876 days. Due to the victory, Tiger’s World Golf Ranking projects him at 13th, a remarkable comeback given that less than a year ago Tiger’s rating fell to as low as 668th in December of 2017.

Ever since 2009, when Woods crashed his SUV into a fire hydrant, revealing extramarital affairs with now ex-wife Ellin Nordegren, Woods’ career has been a roller coaster of ups and downs. Four back and three knee surgeries took him out of competition for months at a time. During these times, Woods’ pain was often so great that he was not able to play on the ground with his children.

Apart from golf, Woods was arrested in May of 2017 for a DUI. Found to be under the influence of painkillers, Woods said the drugs were aiding in his recovery from his most recent back surgery.

Through these various trials and tribulations, many speculated if Tiger would ever return to

the level of excellence he once played at. With each stroke reminiscent of Tiger’s greatness that appeared on the course, people have wondered, “Is Tiger back?”

Although Tiger has appeared to be on the rise in the past, only to fall to injury or some other complication, many experts believe this time is for real. In April, Nike celebrated Tiger’s return to the Masters after a two year absence with a video titled “Welcome Back.” Nike was also one of the only companies to keep their endorsement deals with Tiger after his 2009 scandal.

Not surprised by Tiger’s recent win and optimistic of Tiger’s future is Dordt golf coach and professor of psychology, Mark Christians. Christians believes that should Tiger return to greatness, it would be now. “I think Tiger’s swing the way it is right now puts him in the best position to win more tournaments, potentially more majors,” Christians said. He also said that he observed an increase in Tiger’s maturity over the years and now is rooting for his comeback. Many other golf fans who once distanced themselves from Tiger due to his various scandals have also jumped back on the Tiger bandwagon. However, despite his opinion on Tiger’s return, Christians does not believe that Tiger will equal or surpass legendary golfer Jack Nicklaus’ 18 majors. Currently, Tiger has 14 major titles.

However, little contention exists in claiming that Tiger’s reemergence as a top contender in golf has been nothing short of remarkable.

# Action! Filming for football

Connor Van Hulzen-- Guest Writer

The Dordt College football team is made up of over 100 players and about 10 coaches. There is, however, a part of the team that does not get too much recognition but is nonetheless very important to the improvement of the team.

When the Dordt football players arrive on campus nearly a week before classes start, the film team does as well. The film team this year is comprised of six students who are all participating through the work-study program.

“I was looking for a job at Dordt, and when they offered me the filming job, I took it,” said Joel Driesen, a junior and film team member. “I took it because I loved football and because I knew I wouldn’t continue playing in college, I figured filming would be the next best thing.”

Just like the players on the football team, the students on the film team go to every practice, scrimmage, and game, rain, snow, or shine, in order to capture all the film needed to study and improve. Once the film is captured and uploaded online, the coaches watch the film and take notes, which they then present to the team in meetings.

Tight ends and running backs coach Griffin Pelot is the film coordinator. “It varies from day to day, but after most practices I watch two to three hours of film,” he said. “After games, it’s

probably around six or seven hours of reviewing the film.”

The job of the film team may not be glamorous or draw much attention, but they are an essential part of helping to make the team better. Because of the film, coaches are able to notice mistakes being made and work to correct them before the players are put into a game situation. Pelot said that as a football player at Dordt, he watched three to four hours of game film, and around an hour of film, each day after practice.

Filming for the football team is a unique work-study position in that it allows for moments of bonding with the team and for once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. When asked about his favorite memory of being a member of the film team, Driesen said, “During my freshman year, on the way to an away game against Hastings College, the football team got to practice in The University of Nebraska’s stadium, which was really cool, even though I’m a Hawkeyes fan.”

Being a member of the film team is being a part of the football team. They might not be on the sidelines, but they do contribute to the product on the field through their work in the press box or on the scissor lift. Even though they do not wear pads or catch, throw, or kick a football, the film team members are an integral part of a larger effort to make the Dordt football team as competitive as can be.



# Flooding in East Campus

Tess Hemmila -- Staff Writer



Contributed Photo

With the rainfall of recent weeks, some residents of East Campus apartments have experienced flooding. The issue ranges from minor amounts of water seeping through the windows to flooding severe enough to cause students to relocate. While most basement apartments made it through the rain unscathed, some apartments were damaged and are still empty while being fixed.

While the flooding was a particularly difficult situation, residents of the six buildings that comprise East Campus apartments are no strangers to unsatisfactory housing conditions. Among some of the maintenance issues are broken appliances, minor flooding and even cases of mold in the apartments.

Ebby Prewitt, a resident of Building D, has experienced various maintenance issues in her time at East Campus. Prewitt and her roommates have reported broken showers, a broken garbage disposal, and unreliable lights in the apartment.

“The layout of the apartments is nice, they’re just old,” Prewitt said. “At this point, they need to renovate them, and then continue to keep up with them—keep them feeling new.”

In a more extreme case, junior Lexi Meendering was forced to relocate due to a case of mold in her apartment. Lexi and her roommates originally moved into one of the basement apartments in East Campus Building

C at the beginning of the semester. However, the girls were quickly moved to Building A after they discovered one of the bedroom walls had white mold covering the baseboards.

“It was annoying to move and then have other problems with our new apartment, like our sink breaking,” Meendering said.

Some students believe that the cost of living in East apartments is far too high when you evaluate the condition of the dorms compared to Southview or Kuyper. The semester price of apartment-style living is \$3,730 per person. This amount is even more impressive after factoring in the three to five residents in every apartment, meaning that the room’s total cost comes to \$63.94 to \$106.57 per night spent on campus.

Many students view East Campus as the last resort of the apartment buildings. As the oldest apartment-style building on campus, East has some serious drawbacks compared to the newer and more comfortable Kuyper and Southview buildings. With the housing applications for sophomores and juniors fast approaching, some students are already trying to strategize to get into their desired apartment building.

“East Campus needs some massive improvements,” said sophomore Katie Bogle. “Students are already taking huge measures to avoid being placed in East Campus apartments next year.”

# Student symposium renamed to Student government

Juliana Martinez -- Staff Writer

Few students really knew what Dordt Student Symposium was all about — nor what the word symposium even meant. In May 2018, Dordt’s student council was officially renamed Student Government so that students and faculty could better understand the purpose of the organization.

According to Megan Van Den Berg, the club’s senior chair, “Student Symposium is Student Government...the old name was just a barrier.”

Student Government has two main purposes. First, it serves as a mediator between faculty and students. Student representatives from every educational department and residence building are elected to meet with campus leaders, such as the dining staff or computer services employees, to better understand their functions on campus.

Student leaders can then point their peers in

the right direction when they are confused about meal plans, are having computer troubles, or need to speak with other specialists on campus.

The second main function is to fund clubs. Any student wishing to start up a new club can request to meet with Student Government to receive the Dordt stamp of approval. Clubs may also request funding for events, and the process is effective and efficient.

Dordt is all about community; Student Government is just one more way that Defenders can be engaged on campus. Perhaps the most important role of Student Government officials is representation: they must listen to fellow students and bring the best ideas back to campus leaders.

Have any questions about club establishment or suggestions on how to make Dordt even better? Email your thoughts to [government@dordt.edu](mailto:government@dordt.edu).

# Slug: agriculture internship opportunities at Riverview

Sarah Widener -- Staff Writer

At noon on Monday, Oct. 1, students gathered in the Science Building to hear about internship opportunities at Riverview while devouring fresh pizza. Riverview is an agriculture (Ag) company employing roughly 1,300 people that is stationed in South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Arizona, and New Mexico.

Joan Spaeth, a representative of Riverview, presented a fifty minute presentation to students in which she explained the company’s core values, job opportunities, and culture. Riverview has five core values, the first of which is integrity. Spaeth expanded on the concept of integrity by stating, “Integrity is doing the right thing when no one is watching you.” The second core value held by Riverview is candor. Simply put, this means being upfront and honest with others. This core value is followed by the common phrase, “keep it simple.” The final two core values of Riverview are maintaining a spirit of humility and building a strong work ethic.

Riverview offers college students a unique internship experience as it is one of the few Ag companies that allows employees to proudly proclaim their relationship with Christ. Rachel

Hatfield, a senior at Dordt, shared about her experience interning at Riverview this past summer. Hatfield worked with dairy cows, learning Spanish and the different aspects of dairy over a period of 10 weeks. She appreciated the flexibility of the program, which allowed her to broaden her education by taking a week off during the internship to visit Europe. She also enjoyed learning how to pregnancy check cows and speak Spanish. Hatfield encourages students to explore this internship opportunity and start on the application process.

“We reserve Sundays for God. We don’t work on Sundays except to tend the animals. That’s an important part of how we work as believers,” Spaeth said, as she explained the company culture. Spaeth also offered some advice to students entering careers in all fields. “We are who we are whether we are at work or off work always representing our best selves.”

From Spaeth’s presentation, it was evident that serving God in the fields is Riverview’s mission. Students left the presentation with a taste of what working at Riverview is like.

The deadline for internship applications to Riverview is Oct. 31. Applications can be found online at <http://www.riverviewllp.com/internships.html>.

# INTERN

Spotlight

## RACHEL HATFIELD

West River Dairy

DORDT

COLLEGE

FAVORITE DAIRY PRODUCT

Photo by Rachel Hatfield

# (cont.) Sioux Center “viral”

Continued from front page

the flag you’re under and you’re united now,” Alcover said. “It’s a patriotic thing, having pride in your country and in your flag. I don’t see it as worship.”

Although the fleeting nature of nationalism is up for debate, it is clear we have entered a new cultural climate in America’s history. Instead of volunteering to fight in a war as their predecessors did, some Americans are questioning tradition and challenging those in power. Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick grabbed the attention of the

nation when he knelt during the singing of the National Anthem. His “take a knee” protest against police brutality has met both strong opposition and support, reflecting the division in our increasingly diverse nation.

So what made Kinsey Elementary’s Pledge video go viral?

“It’s a conflux of hitting the right moment with the right topic in a sympathetic tone that people can relate to,” Volkers said. “If we knew the recipe, we’d all be making those.”



## It’s not funny

Erika Buiter -- Staff Writer

Dordt’s campus is beautiful in the late summer. The trees are still in their full-but-fading summer glory and freshmen are getting a sense of the campus. Everyone is excited, anticipating. I love feeling that excitement in my classes and in conversations.

At lunch early on in the semester, I met some new freshmen. Bright-eyed, a little bit unsure, but totally confident—excited—that this is the place they should be. We talked about the Show from WOW week. They said the actors were funny even though the skits dealt with tough topics. And they thought the consent video was funny.

Funny. It’s not the word I would use to describe a lack of consent. It’s not the word I would use to describe the tense, sick feeling I get when I pass certain spots. It’s not the word I use when I pack pepper spray, a whistle, and a pocket knife into my backpack. A 2015 report by the Association of American Universities states that every year “23.1 percent of females and 5.4 percent of males experience rape or sexual assault [in college] through physical force, violence, or incapacitation.” That’s just undergraduate students, and it includes private colleges.

My freshman year, I found out that my friend became part of that 23.1 percent.

It was a weekend night. I knew my friend was hanging out with a guy and a mutual friend. I got some incoherent text-messages from her, and it sounded to me like she had had sex. I could tell she was drunk from the texts. I was worried and scared, but I didn’t know where she was, so I didn’t know what to do.

The next morning, I came to my friend’s dorm. She told me that the guy made her four cranberry vodkas. She said she drank all of them—she didn’t know how much alcohol that was. She told us she got separated from the mutual friend she was with. Then, she said the guy offered to drive her back to her dorm—but he didn’t. She told us she remembered that he drove her to a distant parking lot, had sex with her, then left her at the door of her residence hall. When she told us on Saturday morning, we knew that her drinking probably meant she couldn’t consent. The next night, her roommate convinced her to go to the hospital to report it, getting the ball rolling for investigation by campus and the police.

After months, she told us that he was expelled and kicked off campus. We felt lucky.

More than 90% of sexual assault victims on college campuses don’t report. And even when they do, it is a long process.

Before this particular student was expelled, we ran into him in the hallways, at a play, on campus. We always made sure someone was walking with my friend. Every time we saw him, I gripped my backpack tighter and held my keys in-between my fingers, angry and terrified and protective all at once.

I still don’t feel safe. Most days, I walk on campus and see so much beauty. I see wonderful people who are so genuinely kind and welcoming and warm. I see the staff and faculty who work hard to make sure that Dordt is the place it is. I see posters that educate about consent, even pamphlets this year—a marked improvement. But I can’t forget what happened. I can’t go to the place where she said it happened.

Rape, in general, is a hard topic to talk about. Before college, I didn’t know how to talk about it. I veered between internal victim blaming and external silence. It’s hard to understand how rape affects someone. We try to empathize, think—what if it was my sister, brother, friend? Except when you think about it like that, we unconsciously exclude the other—the slut, the loner, the person who we don’t have a connection to. We categorize people thinking we know their story.

But we don’t. You don’t know what a person has gone through until you listen. Until you walk alongside them, trying to support them through denial, disbelief, anger, depression, fear, apathy, hopelessness, whatever rollercoaster of emotions they are on. You cover for them when they can’t come to class, and you keep their secrets until they’re ready to share. You’ll never fully understand it all—but you try. You listen to the survivors’ stories. You learn.

This is what I wanted to say to those bright-eyed freshmen. But I didn’t. My friend and I shared glances, and my thoughts percolated, and so I wrote this. Why?

Because consent isn’t funny. Consent will never be funny. Sure, a video comparing it to tea may be humorous. It places it in that context to make you more comfortable. But at its core, consent is crucial for not just college freshmen, but everyone. Don’t ignore the new pamphlets, the posters, the tea-videos, and most of all, the stories. Educate yourself. Educate your friends. Empathize with the victims that you find hardest to relate to. When you meet someone who thinks consent is funny, casual, overstated or unimportant—don’t wait to speak up. I know I should have said something to those freshmen.

I won’t make the same mistake again.

## Healing the wounded hearts

Joshua Meribole -- Staff Writer

On, September 28-29, the Dordt College hosted Healing the Wounded heart Conference.

It wasn’t packed and not many Dordt students attended the conference, but there were many people from the community.

Organized by Dordt College, Sioux Center Christian School and Bethesda Counseling, the event has good timing

The #Metoo movement is worldwide and the debate on Supreme Court Nominee Brett Kavanaugh’s allege sexual misconducted is being battled out in the media. Just as the conference was going on a good friend of mine posted on Facebook about his own experience with sexual abuse, which made what was being said even more personal to me.

Going to the Healing the Wounded heart Conference brought new light and understand to me regarding sexual assault and abuse, especially why it may take years for victim to come out about their experiences.

The speakers—Dr. Dan Allender and Wendell Moss—explained the consequences of sexual assault and abuse and how it affects its victims. Dr. Allender has been doing work on trauma and abuse for 30 years. The topic, though very difficult to listen to, was very informative. The speakers dove deep into sexual assault and how its victims are impacted years after the abuse.

The discussion contained heartbreaking stories and definitions of various terms that were at times difficult to understand. Despite that, the talk was easy to follow.

The best thing about the talk for me was that it gave a glimpse into the experiences of people who have been sexually abuse or assaulted. They didn’t mince words or circle the wagons. They were direct. There were several moments when I felt uneasy and uncomfortable, like when they dove into the complex and conflicting emotions that someone who has been violated experience. They also showed a glimpse of how people can



Contributed Photo

begin to help their friends and family members who have been abused.

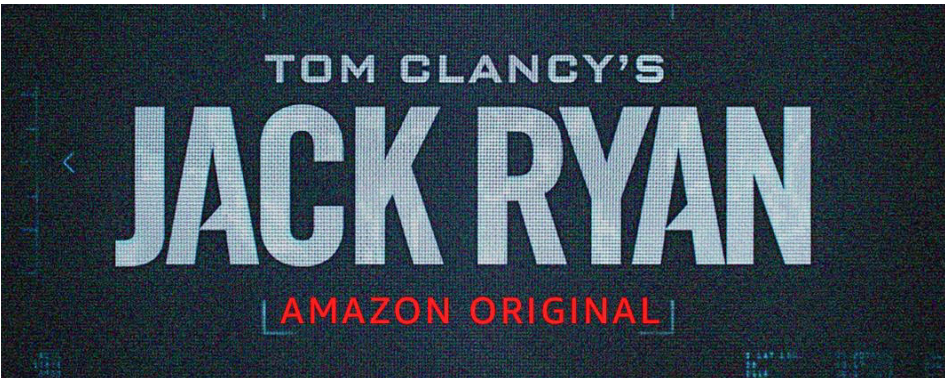
During the talk both speakers discussed how sexual abuse affects the victims in relation to faith, hope, and love. The impact on faith has to do with the loss of trust and one’s inability to rest, hope becomes a sense of powerlessness or “loss of purpose and capacity to perverse,” and love turns to people feeling ashamed and a “loss of Intimacy and capacity for joy.”

The truth is the that conference brought me face to face with my own ignorance on the topic. Sure, I know the statistics of sexual abuse, but to learn about what people experience was a whole different side. For example, they mentioned how a victim’s memory fragments. This means that a victim may not be able to remember fully what happened due to memory gaps.

They gave insight into what happens if our friends have been sexually abused and how we can understand. As Christians, we often react to trauma and negative life experiences by saying that’s “all in God’s plan.” Instead, we should do our best to understand and show empathy.

## Jack Ryan: flag-touting?

Emma Stoltzfus -- Staff Writer



Contributed Photo

The first season of Amazon Prime’s new show Tom Clancy’s Jack Ryan, or just Jack Ryan, premiered on Aug. 31. Taking on the topics of terrorism, the CIA, and biological weapons, the eight-episode season is the first T.V. adaptation of Tom Clancy’s novels.

I have been a fan of Clancy since seeing the 1990 film version of The Hunt for the Red October several years ago, and I watched the entire season by the end of the week. As someone who has read most of the Jack Ryan series and seen all the previous films, I heavily anticipated Amazon’s new series since it was first announced last year.

John Krasinski (also starred in The Office) is the fifth actor to portray the desk-jockey-turned-field-agent, following Alec Baldwin, Harrison Ford, Ben Affleck, and Chris Pine. Krasinski brings a sense of Ryan being a normal next-door-neighbor type of guy to the character, something slightly lost in previous adaptations.

Tom Clancy’s technical spy and military novels—and subsequent various film adaptations—have been historically focused towards an older, male audience. Amazon’s new series attempts to bring in a younger audience, something the 2012 film adaptation of Shadow Recruit with Chris Pine failed to do successfully.

Receiving a four-star review on Amazon and

a 74 percent Rotten Tomatoes score, the show was received rather well. With a second season already in the works, Amazon seems confident in it.

The first season features Ryan being shoved from his desk-job onto the battlefield, tracking up-and-coming Muslim radical Mousa Bin Suleiman (Ali Suliman) around the world.

Amazon made several slight modifications to the world of Jack Ryan. Interesting new or modified characters include: a Muslim CIA agent, Suleiman’s wife, a no-nonsense French officer, and a guilt-driven drone pilot.

Criticisms of the show bounce between it being either too flag-touting and patriotic, or overly sympathetic towards extremists.

After seeing the first season, Amazon seems to have done a fairly good job at diving deep into the individual characters. As the audience, we see mistakes made and realistic backstories built on both sides of the line. They do a good job of portraying the entire situation from multiple points of view. Overall, Amazon Prime’s Jack Ryan checks boxes for both Tom Clancy fans and those looking for a quality military/spy action series.

Season two will be released in 2019 and will take Tom Clancy’s American hero on his next adventure in South America.

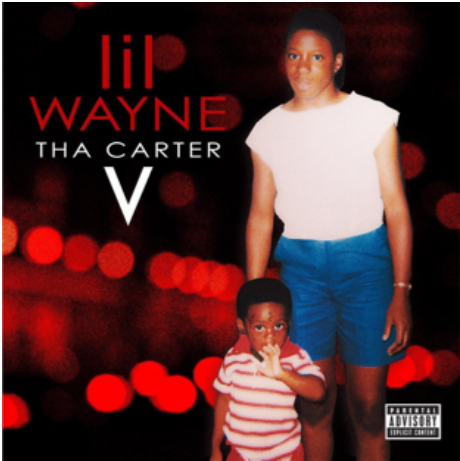
## Lil Wayne’s *Tha Carter V* is ambitious, but bloated

Garth Van Donselaar, Zach Steensma -- Staff Writers

With Contributions From Eric Keizer

Anticipated since the release of Tha Carter IV in 2011, Tha Carter V has been in the works for six years, during which Lil Wayne produced a variety of other music.

Tha Carter V clocks in a whopping 87 minutes, longer than what can be held on a single physical compact disc. With 23 songs,



Contributed Photo

Tha Carter V is an ambitious release, although it’s possibly too expansive for its own good.

Musically, Tha Carter V is traditional rap fare, featuring reggae and R&B instrumentals over hip-hop beats with modern flavor. Occasionally, Lil Wayne shakes things up on the album. Examples of this include the adding of acoustic guitar in the track “Mess” and what sounds to be sitar in “Uproar.”

As for Lil Wayne himself, he carries his normal wheezy tone with occasional but heavy auto-tune, altering his natural voice. Granted, he sounds better with his rough voice as opposed to the robotic nature of auto-tune.

Lyrically, there is a lot of reflection in Tha Carter V. Lyrics discuss Lil Wayne’s past, ranging from issues with women, his children, his childhood, drugs, and his career. Lil Wayne still possesses good wordplay in lyrics, but frequently finds himself repeating words numerous times. Even worse, some of the words are used repeatedly to rhyme lines.

Tha Carter V also features lyrics from the perspective of Lil Wayne’s mother, Jacida Carter. She appears at the beginning and end of songs in what appears to be segments from spoken interviews. Here, she discusses raising

Continued on page 12



# ◆ Arts & Entertainment ◆

page 10

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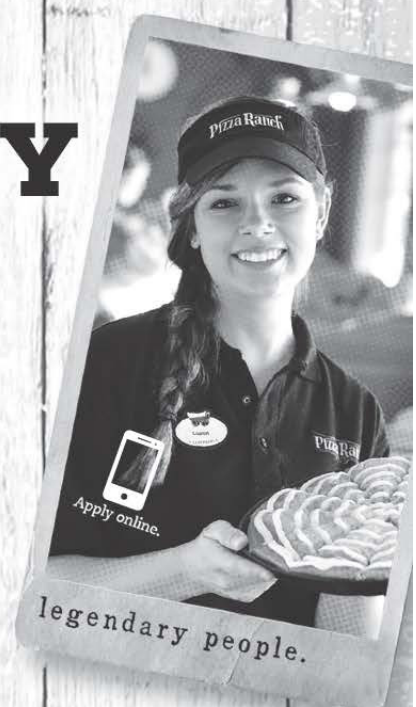
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# ◆ The Back Page ◆

## Explaining the raining: why Siouxland got soaked

Alex Van Den Top -- Staff Writer

SIOUX CENTER, IA – The Siouxland area has been plagued with record-breaking amounts of rain, spurring massive amounts of flooding in the Rock and Floyd rivers. This has caused problems with railway systems that get covered with floodwaters.

John Slegers, Director of Media for KDCR, tracks weather patterns along with his news-related duties. Slegers theorizes there are a

couple of determining factors when considering the high amounts of rainfall accumulated over the past four months.

“I think what we’ve seen is our jet stream is a little further south than it normally is,” Slegers said. “Where you get the jet stream is also where you get the clash of weather systems, and it usually drops down toward our area in the fall.”

According to Sleger, there’s also El Niño to consider, which brings complex weather

systems to whatever area it surrounds. The warming of the equator can also bring crazy and unpredictable weather changes, but he sees it as a longshot to assume it’s involved here.

“The typical pattern is wet follows wet,” Slegers explained. “You would need a big chart busting weather system to break up a long range wet pattern like we’ve been having.” It works the same way for dry weather: Drought systems typically last for 30 to 50 years.

Taking a broader look at the weather spectrum,

John sees a trend of warmer weather moving upward, though this data is inconclusive. Slegers said to watch for the overnight lows in the winter, they’ve typically been getting warmer and warmer over the past 15 years. Frost doesn’t get as deep under this trend, which can bring weed systems up farther north right into the Corn Belt, a major problem for farmers.

For now, though, it looks like the rain is going to keep on coming.



Contributed Pshoto

## (cont.) Lil Wayne

*Continued fom page 9*

her son, the struggles that came with, and how he has gone on to make her proud.

Because of the focus on the reflective nature of the lyrics, Tha Carter V feels mellower and slower than the mixtapes Dedication 6 & Dedication 6 Reloaded Lil Wayne released last year. Where the mixtapes showcased Lil Wayne pulling out all the stops in terms of intensity, Tha Carter V does not feature many tracks with him at full intensity.

Lil Wayne’s performance on the album remains consistently good, which cannot be said of the features. Many features are limited to the chorus of the song and leave much to be desired. Lil Wayne only has features on about a third of his songs, but the only features which stand out are from XXXTentacion, Kendrick

Lamar, and Snoop Dogg.

“Don’t Cry” features XXXTentacion wailing vocals on the chorus. With this being a posthumous release for him and the accompaniment of background strings, a haunting aspect is added to the song. Due to its sober nature and the death of XXXTentacion, “Don’t Cry” serves as a solid opener with its impact.

Lil Wayne also shows off his ambition on “Mona Lisa.” The song experiments by separating the track into two distinct parts, with the lyrics revealing an affair with a woman. The two sides of the story are rapped by Kendrick Lamar and Lil Wayne. Mona Lisa shows the rapping power of both rappers, featuring extensive rap segments without taking time for a chorus in its 5:24 runtime. However, “Mona

Lisa” shows a weakness of Lil Wayne’s writing, as repeated lines will end with “n\*\*\*a” simply to make a rhyme work.

“Mona Lisa” is not the only song to have this problem. Other songs use the same rhyme up to six lines at a time, multiple times. Despite cumbersome rhymes, some songs do feature clever wordplay, such as “you are what you smoke.” Snoop Dogg shines as feature on the track, as his smooth voice on the chorus provides good contrast to Lil Wayne’s raspy raps.

In comparison to other hip-hop releases that came out this year, such as Death Grips’ Year of the Snitch and the Kanye West and Kid Cudi collaboration Kids See Ghosts, these releases feature much shorter runtimes, and as a result, feel tighter and more focused.

Overall, Tha Carter V is a big release that has a plethora of material for listeners. While there are standout tracks on the album, a majority of the songs are mediocre at best and for an album to have so much material on it with little of it standing out, Tha Carter V feels too big for own good, and grows stale as the album progresses.

Rating: 6/10

If you have an album you would like to be reviewed, feel free to email Garth or Zach.

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